

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 07142 070206Z  
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00  
INRE-00 SSO-00 /039 W

-----090182 070214Z /63

O P 070122Z JUN 78  
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 745  
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 7142

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SREF  
SUBJECT: REFUGEE ACCOMMODATION CRISIS IN HONG KONG

REF: HONG KONG 6955 AND 7137

1. WE WERE INFORMED THAT APPROXIMATELY 175 RPT 175 BOAT CASE  
REFUGEES ARRIVED EARLY JUNE 7 IN HONG KONG ABOARD TWO  
LARGE HONG KONG FISHING BOATS WHICH PICKED THEM UP NEAR  
HAINAN ISLAND. ADDITIONAL DETAILS WILL BE REPORTED WHEN  
AVAILABLE.

2. ALL OF THESE REFUGEES CANNOT BE ACCOMMODATED IN EXISTING  
ACCOMMODATIONS. ICEM NOW ATTEMPTING DETERMINE HOW  
MANY CAN BE LITERALLY SQUEEZED INTO THREE EXISTING HOTELS/  
HOSTELS AND TRYING TO FIND OTHER PLACES TO ACCOMMODATE  
THEM, IF ONLY ON TEMPORARY BASIS.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT DESPITE PROBLEMS FINDING SPACES FOR THESE  
REFUGEES, MOST PROBABLY THEY WILL BE HOUSED BY TONIGHT.  
HOWEVER, IT WILL MEAN AT MINIMUM THAT NEW ACCOMMODATIONS  
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WILL BE TO BE LOCATED BY UNHCR ON URGENT BASIS FOR  
FUTURE ARRIVALS.

4. FOR GENEVA. MISSION (OR ORM/LOWMAN IF IN GENEVA) MAY  
WISH TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH THE UNHCR. DESPITE  
OUR REPEATED URGING, UNHCR HAS SHOWN LITTLE REAL INTEREST  
IN REFUGEE PROBLEMS IN HONG KONG, PARTICULARLY IN THE

AREA OF ACCOMMODATIONS. HONG KONG GOVT INFORMED US THAT  
THEY DID NOT ACCEPT SAMPATKUMAR'S POSITION DURING LAST  
VISIT HERE THAT REFUGEE ACCOMMODATIONS ARE HONG KONG  
GOVT RESPONSIBILITY. UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES,  
WE HOPE THAT UNHCR WILL TAKE PROMPT ACTION TO LOCATE  
ADDITIONAL ACCOMMODATIONS IN HONG KONG OR MAKE URGENT  
ARRANGEMENTS WITH MACAU GOVT TO USE MACAU AS TEMPORARY  
HOLDING SITE FOR THOSE HONG KONG REFUGEES AWAITING  
SPONSORSHIPS SO THAT NEW ARRIVALS CAN BE PLACED IN  
EXISTING ACCOMMODATIONS.  
SHOESMITH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, REPORTS, SEA RESCUES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978HONGK07142  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780237-0108  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** HONG KONG  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780687/aaaacwwi.tel  
**Line Count:** 73  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 6f425e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION HA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 HONG KONG 6955  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2458547  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REFUGEE ACCOMMODATION CRISIS IN HONG KONG  
**TAGS:** SREF, HK  
**To:** STATE GENEVA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/6f425e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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